



## Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 199**

January Session, 2015

Substitute Senate Bill No. 839

*Senate, March 24, 2015*

The Committee on Children reported through SEN. BARTOLOMEO of the 13th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AND COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES FILED BY CHILDREN UNDER THE CARE AND CUSTODY OF THE DEPARTMENT.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1      Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2015*) (a) Not later than five days  
2      after receiving any complaint or grievance from a child or youth under  
3      the care and custody of the Department of Children and Families, the  
4      Office of the Ombudsman within the Department of Children and  
5      Families shall provide a copy of such complaint or grievance, and any  
6      documents and records related to such complaint or grievance to the  
7      Office of the Child Advocate.
- 8      (b) Not later than five days after completing an investigation into  
9      any complaint or grievance received from a child or youth under the  
10     care and custody of the department, the Office of the Ombudsman  
11     shall provide a copy of any documents and records related to such

12 investigation to the Office of the Child Advocate.

13 (c) Not later than five days after resolving any complaint or  
14 grievance received from a child or youth under the care and custody of  
15 the department, the Office of the Ombudsman shall provide a copy of  
16 any documents and records related to such resolution to the Office of  
17 the Child Advocate.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2015	New section

**KID**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

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***OFA Fiscal Note***

***State Impact:*** None

***Municipal Impact:*** None

***Explanation***

There is no fiscal impact associated with requiring the Office of Ombudsman within the Department of Children and Families to provide records to the Office of the Child Advocate in certain circumstances.

***The Out Years***

***State Impact:*** None

***Municipal Impact:*** None

**OLR Bill Analysis****sSB 839*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN  
WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AND  
COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES FILED BY CHILDREN UNDER  
THE CARE AND CUSTODY OF THE DEPARTMENT.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the Department of Children and Families' (DCF) ombudsman's office to give the Office of the Child Advocate copies of all documents and records pertaining to certain complaints, grievances, investigations, and determinations. The ombudsman must do so no later than five days after:

1. receiving a complaint or grievance from a child or youth (age 16 or 17) in DCF care and custody,
2. completing an investigation of the complaint or grievance, and
3. resolving the complaint or grievance.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2015

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Committee on Children

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 13 Nay 0 (03/10/2015)